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2017

# Recommendations of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Restructuring of the Standing Committees of the Senate: New Sections 4.40 - 4.46 Replacing Existing Sections 4.50 and 4.55 - 4.58 of the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate, effective for the 2018-2019 academic year

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

Green Hall, 35 Campus Avenue, Kingston, RI 02881 USA p: 401.874.2616



Serial Number #17-18-18

TO: President David Dooley  
FROM: Mark Conley, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL titled, Recommendations of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Restructuring of the Standing Committees of the Senate: New Sections 4.40 – 4.46 Replacing Existing Sections 4.50 and 4.55 – 4.58 of the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate, effective for the 2018-2019 academic year, is forwarded for your consideration.
2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on December 7, 2017.
3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective December 28, 2017 three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; or (3) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum.

Mark Conley  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

December 7, 2017

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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- a. Approved ☒.
- b. Approved subject to Notice of the Council on Postsecondary Education \_\_\_\_.
- c. Disapproved \_\_\_\_.

  
Signature of the President

3.30.18  
(date)

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Moved on [October 19, 2017](#)

Amendment approved on [November 16, 2017](#)

Returned on December 7, 2017

(effective for the 2018-2019 academic year)

**New Sections of the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate 4.40 – 4.46  
Replacing Existing Sections 4.50 and 4.55 – 4.58**

**4.40 The Committee for Research and Creative Activities** (henceforth referred to as the “full committee”) shall consist of faculty and students active, experienced, or concerned with various aspects of research, creative, and scholarly efforts at URI. The full committee shall serve as the representative voice of the university community in all matters related to research, creative, and scholarly activities and shall seek to improve the environment for research at URI in all ways possible. The full committee shall also comprise two subcommittees, the Competitive Grants Subcommittee and the Center Review Subcommittee. Each subcommittee shall comprise three faculty members serving on the full committee and three additional faculty members appointed on a staggered basis. The chairs of the subcommittees shall be appointed from the members of the full committee. The full committee shall meet at least once a month and present reports to the Faculty Senate in December and April and more often as needed.

**4.41 Advocacy of Research and Creative Activities:** The full committee shall promote comprehensive understanding of the notion of research, creative, and scholarly work in order to enhance the well-being of all such work at URI; seek to identify all challenges which hinder research, creative, and scholarly efforts at URI and provide recommendations to correct them; review and recommend policies for the management of research affairs at URI and serve as the advisory committee for the Vice President for Research and Economic Development; upon request, advise all campus groups and offices on matters relating to research, creative, and scholarly work.

**4.42 Library and Open Access:** The full committee shall act as liaison between the University Library and the faculty as a whole and advise the Library on matters of general faculty concern; consult with the Library faculty on long-range needs of the Library and the adequacy of budget provisions to meet those needs; serve in an advisory capacity to the Faculty Senate regarding the implementation and interpretation of the University of Rhode Island Open-Access Policy, resolving disputes concerning the interpretation and application of the policy and recommending changes of the policy to the Faculty Senate.

**4.43 The Competitive Grants Subcommittee** shall solicit proposals from the faculty and award, on a competitive basis, financial support for a “Faculty Development” program (using guidelines developed together with the full committee) to support faculty salary and fellowships, student support, operating expenses, travel, and equipment; advise the Vice President for Research and Economic Development concerning the allocation among faculty, on a competitive basis, of financial support for a “Proposal Development” program (using guidelines developed by the Vice

President for Research and Economic Development in consultation with the full committee) to support faculty salary and fellowships, student support, operating expenses, travel, and equipment. The Competitive Grants Subcommittee shall meet as needed.

**4.44 The Center Review Subcommittee** shall review applications for Centers, including institutes, bureaus, partnerships, and similar entities, to operate for an initial three-year period and recommend to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs action on the temporary authorization of centers based on the potential for intellectual contributions, utilization of undergraduate and graduate students, interdepartmental or intercollege involvement, and external funding during its initial three years; review applications for continuing authorization of Centers, including institutes, bureaus, partnerships, and similar entities, after the initial three years and recommend to the Faculty Senate action on center proposals based on program quality, research, outreach, or educational activities, involvement of undergraduate and graduate students, interdepartmental or intercollege connections, and potential for continued external funding, as appropriate for the mission and goals of the center; review the continuing status of Centers, including institutes, bureaus, partnerships, and similar entities, every four years and submit recommendations for further continuation or dissolution to the Faculty Senate based on overall program quality, research, outreach, or educational contributions, financial support of student involvement, interdepartmental or intercollege involvement, and continued external funding, as appropriate for the mission and goals of the center. The Center Review Subcommittee shall meet as needed.

**4.45 Research Overhead Funds:** The full committee shall serve on the Committee for Review of the Distribution of Facilities and Administrative (Overhead) Funds (see University Manual Sections 10.72.10 –10.72.14).

**4.46 Workload reductions:** The chair of the full committee shall have his/her workload reduced by one-half of his/her normal duties, and the faculty members who serve both on the full committee and on one of the subcommittees shall have their workload reduced by one-third of their normal duties. There shall be no workload reduction for those faculty members who serve only on one of the subcommittees.